

## Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-25

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R 221500Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6525

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4246

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, USEGJC

SUBJECT: DUTCH AID TO EGYPT

REFS: (A) STATE 198666; (B) THE HAGUE 787 (NOTAL);

(C) THE HAGUE 3691 (NOTAL).

1. DURING INITIAL CALL ON RINGNALDA (SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PRIME MINISTER), CHARGE, ACCOMPANIED BY ECON COUNSELOR, RAISED SUBJECT OF GON AID TO EGYPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A. RINGNALDA CONFIRMED THAT, IN ADDITION TO ORIGINAL CALENDAR YEAR 1975 AID FOR EGYPT (15 MILLION GUILDERS OR \$5.7 MILLION EQUIVALENT AT CURRENT RATE OF EXCHANGE-SEE REF B), MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AID PRONK HAD ANNOUNCED IN JUNE THAT GON WAS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE AN ADDITIONAL \$12 MILLION IN AID TO EGYPT (REF C). RINGNALDA SAID HE WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO EXTENT PRONK PROPOSAL HAD BEEN ACTED UPON BUT BELIEVED NECESSARY FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET.

2. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS DEALING WITH AID TO EGYPT HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED THAT GON HAS COMMITTED FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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1975 AID FUNDS THE EQUIVALENT OF \$17.7 MILLION TO EGYPT AS FOLLOWS:

(1) 15 MILLION GUILDERS (\$5.7 MILLION AT RATE OF 2.63 GUILDERS EQUAL \$1.00), INCLUDING:

A) 11 MILLION GUILDERS AS SOFT (3.3 PERCENT INTEREST)  
LOANS FOR THREE PROJECTS (IMPROVEMENT DRAINAGE TECH-  
NIQUES, WEED CONTROL, CHICKENS), AND  
B) 4 MILLION GUILDERS IN GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
SERIES OF PROJECTS;

(2) \$12 MILLION EQUIVALENT ANNOUNCED IN JUNE, INCLUDING  
A) \$2 MILLION GRANT FOR UNDP FEASIBILITY STUDY OF SUEZ  
CANAL ZONE DEVELOPMENT, AND  
B) \$10 MILLION FOR LOANS TO CARRY OUT SUEZ CANAL ZONE  
PROJECTS AT 3.3 PERCENT INTEREST.

3. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS STATED EGYPT APPEARS TO BE  
SATISFIED WITH LEVEL OF DUTCH AID COMMITTED FOR 1975, WHICH  
AT TOTAL OF \$17.7 MILLION WOULD COMPARE VERY FAVORABLY  
WITH AID CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF  
TOTAL DUTCH POPULATION OR GNP (E.G. DUTCH CONTRIBUTION,  
ON BASIS OF TOTAL POPULATION, WOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO A U.S.  
CONTRIBUTION OF \$280 MILLION, OR, ON BASIS OF TOTAL GNP,  
TO U.S. CONTRIBUTION OF OVER \$350 MILLION). OFFICIALS,  
NOTING THAT GON DOES NOT HAVE EQUIVALENT OF EXIMBANK,  
SAID THEY BELIEVED EGYPT COULD ALSO ARRANGE COMMERCIAL  
CREDITS TO FINANCE CURRENT IMPORTS THROUGH PRIVATE DUTCH  
COMMERCIAL AND BANKING FACILITIES.

BROWN

CONFIDENTIAL

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